

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 139652

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SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. COUP IN KABUL

PRELIMINARY REPORTS FROM EMBASSY KABUL INDICATE A COUP TOOK PLACE JULY 17 IN SEVERAL PRE-DAWN HOURS OF HEAVY SMALL ARMS AND TANK FIRING. FORMER STRONG-MAN PRIME MINISTER PRINCE DAUD APPARENTLY LED THE PLOT AGAINST THE ROYAL FAMILY AND PROCLAIMED A REPUBLIC. DAUD WAS ASSISTED BY THE MILITARY, WHICH REPORTEDLY QUASHED THE POLICE AND ARRESTED THE ROYAL FAMILY, THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE, AND THE COMMANDER OF THE ARMY CENTRAL FORCES, ABDUL WALI (THE KING'S SON-IN-LAW). (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) KABUL 5188 (FLASH), 5193, & 5194, 7/17.

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PAGE 02 STATE 139652

2. PAPADOPOULOS PROMISES "MOST GENUINE AND TRUE FREEDOM"

IN RESPONSE TO A DEMARCHE BY AMBASSADOR TASCA, GREEK PRIME MINISTER PAPADOPOULOS STATED "CATEGORICALLY" THAT BOTH THE PLEBISCITE AND THE ELECTIONS TO FOLLOW WOULD

BE HELD IN "THE MOST GENUINE AND TRUE FREEDOM." PAPADOPOULOS TOOK THE OCCASION TO NOTE GREECE WAS DISTURBED BY SEVERAL BILATERAL ISSUES, AND WAS ASSURED BY TASCA THAT THESE PROBLEMS WERE REFLECTIONS OF US CONCERN THAT WOULD BE AMELIORATED BY A SHOWING OF REAL FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN THE PLEBISCITE. (SECRET) ATHENS 4831, 6/16 (EXDIS).

3. NEXT STEPS IN FRG EASTERN POLICY

AN FRG FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCE TOLD EMBASSY BONN THAT HE EXPECTS NEGOTIATIONS DURING THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS WITH HUNGARY AND BULGARIA TO MAKE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THOSE TWO COUNTRIES POSSIBLE AS EARLY AS SEPTEMBER. ONE SNAG MAY BE THE FRG'S FIRM STAND ON CONSULAR REPRESENTATION FOR WEST BERLIN AS AN ENTITY, AND NOT JUST FOR ITS CITIZENS. (CONFIDENTIAL) BONN 10087, 7/16.

4. ICELANDIC POSITION ON IDF ARTICLE VII NEGOTIATIONS

IN A CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER AGUSTSSON TO DISCUSS THE NEGOTIATIONS COMING UP THIS FALL, AMBASSADOR IRVING LEARNED THAT THE ICELANDERS SEE A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN MILITARY MANPOWER AS THE KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME. AGUSTSSON DEFINED "SUBSTANTIAL" AS BEING ONE-THIRD (OF 3300). THE REDUCTION WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED BY A PHASED REMOVAL OF NONESSENTIAL IDF FUNCTIONS AND SUBSTITUTION OF CIVILIANS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 1100. (SECRET) REYKJAVIK 824, 7/16. RUSH

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